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HAMILTON BOULEVARD INDUSTRIAL PARK REDEVELOPMENT PLAN ADVANCES WITH PRESENTATION TO BOROUGH COUNCIL TONIGHT

Council to Hear Informational Case Study on a Connecticut Superfund Redevelopment Project

South Plainfield, December 3, 2001 – A case study of a successful Superfund Redevelopment project will be presented tonight to the South Plainfield Borough Council as part of the discussion on redeveloping the Hamilton Boulevard Industrial Park site.

The South Plainfield site, formerly owned by Cornell-Dubilier Electronics, Inc. and Dana Corporation, was designated a Superfund site by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) in 1998. Monica Conyngham, attorney for Cornell-Dubilier, and Michael Last, representing Dana Corporation, are presenting an informational case study of the Raymark Site in Stratford, Connecticut, a 34-acre industrial area contaminated by waste from more than 70 years of manufacturing activities. In addition to addressing the site's environmental condition, the redevelopment of the Raymark Site into a retail shopping center will create a significant number of jobs, increase local tax revenues and provide additional retail options for the community.

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"While there are certainly differences between the Raymark project and the one being considered for Hamilton Boulevard Industrial Park, the case study illustrates the potential economic, aesthetic and environmental benefits of a successful redevelopment project," said Last. "In addition, the Raymark project was completed in just over two years, a much shorter timeframe than traditional Superfund cleanup projects."

"The key to the success of the Raymark project was the commitment of all the interested parties to working together to achieve their goals," stated Conyngham.

In April, the Borough Council unanimously passed a resolution directing the Planning Board to make recommendations on the 27-acre Hamilton Boulevard Industrial Park property. Lester Nebenzahl, town planner for the Borough, conducted the study, which took into consideration the conceptual redevelopment plan previously endorsed by the Borough Council. The plan involves small retail stores along Hamilton Boulevard, office and industrial space on the southeast portion of the site, storage units on the south side and 40 percent of the property left as open space.

On October 9, 2001, as a result of the study, the Planning Board unanimously recommended naming the Hamilton Boulevard Industrial Park Site as a part of a Redevelopment Area. The next step is for the Borough Council to vote on the Planning Board's recommendation.